BY ST. GEORGE RATHBORNE.

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CHAPTER XI.

[Continued.] "Something has evidently befallen the rascally Brahmin since night closed in. What did you conclude was

the matter?" he asks. "Well, I thought the fellow had evidently been barking up the wrong

tree," says Sandy, solemnly. This time Grimes laughs aloud.

"Good guess, my boy. He owes the goose-egg on his forehead, the halt in his gait and the bandaged arm to some one we know."

"Ten to one it was that Mynheer Joe!" exclaimed the correspondent

quickly. "Go up head, young man. You are an ornament to the guessing class.

Sure enough, it was our Joseph who handled the Thug without gloves. The beast was on a mission for his master, and was thrown through the window by the messenger from Khartoom." Of course Sandy pricks his ears up

at this chance for a sensation, and plies the other with questions, which Mr. Grimes answers to the best of his ability. The story is soon told, and followed by what he has, this morning, seen the baron do-exercise his skill with sword and revolver, as though there is work ahead.

"As sure as you live, it's going to be nip and tuck between these two yet. I'm ready to bet on Joe, but I admit human devil against him. Still, Joe's him. He's the only foreigner to come out of Khartoom alive. Let us hope and pray he will finally outwit that baron and carry off the prize."

Sandy has never been more earnest in all his life, and if something would only come up whereby he could show his friendship he stands ready to chip in, no matter what the cost.

Thus Joe's friends talk over matters and endeavor to discover some way whereby the explorer can be benefited. They feel sure the baron has made up his mind to push matters to the wall, and that he will not hesitate about the means he employs.

If Joe is challenged, of course he may have the choice of weapons, time and place. He can, therefore, make the best of the bargain. The one thing they fear is that the baron may arrange it so that the insult comes from him. Well, if so, Joe will probably avenge it on the spot, and not

dream of sending in a challenge. Thus they draw consolation from the situation and hope for the best. Where can Joe have taken himself to? They fail to find anything of him, nor do they see Tanner and his daughter. This delay is not to Sandy's lik-

ing, as he is anxious to send a telegram to the city on the Mediterranean, raging his passage for India, and frets under the lapse of time. The morning has gone and the after-

noon with it. It is evening when the two friends run across Tanner in the hotel-Tanner, who greets them in his usual boisterous manner, as he does all his

friends. Sandy sees his opportunity and makes the best possible use of it. He asks the orator his intentions about travel, and hints at how nice it would be if all of them could go on the same steamer to India, which proposition

quite takes the other by storm. Making inquiries as to date of sailing and a few other things, Tanner figures on his own plans, and then announces that Sandy may include himself and daughter in the party.

"How about Mynheer Joe?" "You'll have to see him personally," returns the orator, with a sly twinkle in his eyes, as though he can make a pretty good guess that the party mentioned will not be far away when they leave Alexandria.

"Where may he be found?" asks Sandy.

"Think I know. You see a party of English officers and leading men were bound to fete the brave boy who came from Khartoom with the last news of poor Gordon. They took him | pursues Sandy. over to the barracks, where a spread had been ordered. I was pressed to go, but Molly would be waiting for me at the hotel here, and as I am a dutiful parent and never disappoint her, I gave up the idea."

Sandy has a cloud on his brow. "How long ago since the party went

in? "More than half an hour, I reckon," replies Tanner, consulting his time- insult-what then?" piece.

"They must have reached the wine and cigars."

"Very probably." "Mr. Tanner, was the baron present?"

"Certainly. That man is everywhere!" It is evident that he does not bear malice against the baron, or at least fails to show it. Sandy and Mr. Grimes exchange

glances. "It will be done there?" says the

latter. "No doubt of it, sir," replies the cor-

respondent. "What's all this about?" asks Tanner, noticing their peculiar nods and stripes among the nations of Europe. glances.

"We're off to see if Joe goes with us or stays in Cairo." And with the words the two friends

leave Tanner, heading for the bar racks. As they reached the door of this in-

stitution, loud voices are heard, excitement seems to reign, and the colonel can be heard exclaiming:

"Gentlemen, remember you are under a military roof! Reserve all demonstrations until we separate!"

CHAPTER XII.

"WITH SWORDS-AN HOUR AFTER SUN-RISE!"

the look exchanged between the two denotes that they understand the true inwardness of this affair; it hardly needs the glance they take into the

cions. It is a scene they will never forget as long as they live. A dozen or more officers and gentlemen have been at the table; the cloth is removed and cigars and wine served. At one side of the Colonel stands Mynheer Joe, the hero of Khartoom; he holds an empty wine-glass in his hand, while upon his face can be seen a contemptuous look. His eyes are bent across

mess-room to corroborate their suspi-

the table. Nearly opposite to him is the baron. With a snowy handkerchief he wipes the wine from his face; it has also discolored his shirt-front where blazes a wonderful diamond, worth a small fortune.

Sandy observes his face and discovers hardly a trace of anger there; indeed, from the sardonic smile one would imagine that this incident is just what the Russian duelist has played for.

Returning the soiled kerchief to his pocket, he cooly tosses his card across the table in the direction of Mynheer Joé.

"You will speedily hear from me, sir," he says, with cutting emphasis. "The sooner the better, baron! Remember, I leave on Saturday's steamthe case is awfully doubtful, with that er," returns the American, while the officers look astounded; for, brave men star of luck has never yet deserted though they are, there is not one among them who would care to be in Joe's shoes.

The Russian bows and leaves the room; he can no longer remain at the table with the man who has thus publicly insulted him, and as Mynheer Joe is the guest of the occasion, it becomes his duty to depart from the mess-table.

Sandy is joined by one of the officers, a fine young fellow, who has taken quite a fancy to the war correspondent. The latter declares it will be his pleasant duty to see Hans Fletcher become a general some day. He has the greatest faith in his dashing qualities. "Tell us, how did this ugly affair

come about?" he asks, eagerly, for those at the mess-table appear to have forgotten it in listening to Joe's glowing story of Gordon's death. "Willingly-what little I know," replies the British officer. "I was at

to distinctly catch the full meaning in trim, then? Note the poor profes of the baron's insult." "Then he brought it on purposely, as I supposed." "We suspect as much, though his

reason is not plain. Perhaps you gentlemen know it?" "The same old story-rivals in love." "Ah! That's the truth of it, eh?" "Was the baron's remark about Miss

Tanner?" "I am glad to say it was not. From the little I heard, I believe it concerned Mynheer Joe's country-some insulting allusion to the flag that covers our cousins across the water."

"Good! And Joe resented it, as any true American would, no matter if his death was a foregone conclusion," says

Sandy, hotly. "But, you see, it's a serious thing to bring on a row at the Colonel's mess-table.'

"And a still more serious thing to be publicly insulted there. The Colonel should have seen to it that only gentlemen were invited and not the miserable hound who thinks his title of baron can cover up all his iniquities."

The lieutenant glances rather nervously around, hoping no friend of the baron would overhear what is being said by the fiery little correspondent, or there may be a double duel Frenchman has been rattled until he

on the tapis. "Honestly, now, lieutenant, if you had been at the mess-table of a German regiment, an invited and honored He is rusty this night. What of me?" guest, and this man should say exactly the same against your flag what he did against our stars and stripes, what would have been your action?'

The officer bites his military mous tache.

"Really, my dear fellow, you have me. There would be but one course for me to pursue, and that to cast his slur in his teeth, as a brave man like Mynheer Joe has done."

"Exactly! I knew it! Then blame him no more, but rather honor his daring. When this cur had given the

"Every eve was turned on Mynheer Joe, for we all understood what was meant. I saw him shut his teeth hard. but only a slight frown passed over his bronzed face. Leaning over the table, he looked the baron full in the eye and said caimly: 'I return the compliment, baron. That flag could never wave over the land that harbors a Siberia!" And quick as a flash he emptied his wine-glass full into the other's face."

Sandy's face glows with enthusiasm. He is proud of his countryman. A few more such men as Mynheer Joe scattered about the world would cause a greater respect for the stars and He looks at the explorer, and does

not see that Joe is impressed with the danger into which he has been thus drawn by circumstances. "I have great confidence in his abil-

ity, and his lucky star seems in the ascendant," he remarks, at which the officer says in a low tone: "Privately, between us, Sandy, I

earnestly hope he will do the baron. sea for miles around is charged with Besides the regard we feel for him the sulphur, and the water has the cuas a cousin from across the water and rious property or completely cleaning the man who avenged Gordon, you the copper bottom of any vessel, no understand that we have no love for matter how thicking coated with mathe Russian, whose mission to India rine growth. we can suspect."

"Yes, and it's my private opinion that when he runs up against Joe he'll of the largest postoffices for the month The words are deeply significant and wish he had taken some other course." of July aggregated \$3,338,683, a net Sandy clutches his companion's arm; It is a good thing to have a san- increase of \$253,392 over July, 1899.

guine friend, but Sandy does not deceive himself. He knows what the other has to face as well as Mr. Grimes, who watched the baron wield a sword and shot with him at a tar-

Mynheer Joe presently excuses himself from the company. They understand his going, and do not wonder at it. Any man who may be called upon at sunrise to face the Russian duelist would be a fool to stupefy his senses by lingering at a banquet ta-

He is immediately joined by Sandy and the pseudo silver king, and the three walk out under the stars to talk. Joe is soon informed with regard to all that Mr. Grimes has learned.

The three presently bring up at the ymnasium, for it is the wish of the latter gentleman that the explorer shall show what he can do, so a comparison may be drawn and a decision rendered as to what Joe's course must be when he receives the challenge expected.

A very few persons are present. Mr. Grimes speaks to the man in charge, and they are made welcome as friends of the officers. The same professor with whom the baron played is present, and with pleasure he agrees to fence with the American, no doubt believing he will have a chance to recover his prestige, lost in the bout with the baron that day. When Mynheer Joe takes off his

coat and vest and puts a belt around his waist he is ready for the affair. Upon his feet he has drawn a pair of rubber foot-holds that will keep him from slipping. He bares his right arm, and Sandy

sees the professor glance at his superb biceps as though pleased. Then the man of foils takes his wrist and feels it.

"A wonderful arm, monsieur," he says, with kindling eyes. "With practice you should be a magnificent wordsman."

"So old Duval used to tell me," replies Joe. "Ah, sacre! You take lessons from him, ze greatest master in Paris. Per-

haps I shall not be able to have ze

revenge after all." Meanwhile Joe rolls up his left shirt sleeve in the same way, an action the professor regards with concern, but which Mr. Grimes takes to mean what he has fondly hoped.

"Ready, professor?" The foils click and begin to writhe like snakes, passing in and out with the rapidity of thought. Sandy and Mr. Grimes stand near by. They have a deeper interest in this engagement than appears on the surface.

After looking on for a minute, Mr. Grimes heaves a sigh of relief.

"He'll do, Sandy. I'll stake my life on him, even against the Russian. Watch that magnificent play of the wrist. Heavens! I've seen a man wield a sword before, but never like that. Hark! What does he say-that he finds himself rusty and sluggish. the other end of the table and failed Deuce take it, what can he do when sor. He actually looks scared. His revenge doesn't pan out very well. does it? I think I'll have to give him a turn myself to make him feel good."

Thus the usually taciturn Mr. Grimes rattles on, while Sandy can

hardly keep quiet. "Jove! He tosses his weapon into his left hand. Again he is at the professor like a tiger. The poor devil has had the button against his heart a dozen times. What d'ye think of that left-handed play, old fellow? laughs Sandy.

His companion squeezes his hand, for once, showing excitement.

"I feel as jolly as if an old uncle had died and left me his fortune. The baron will meet his match. It will be a royal battle. No danger of our Joe getting hurt. Yes, no matter how well he uses the firearms, I shall recommend swords. The other way both may be killed; here, wounds are more possible. Swords are gentlemen's weapons, truly. Look! He hunts the professor-he has him utterly demoralized-he throws down his foil and holds up his hand! Enough, gentle-

It is as Mr. Grimes has said. The can no longer use his weapon. He laughs good-naturedly.

"Monsieur must have his little joke. he exclaims, shaking Joe's hand.

[To be Continued.] Dangerous Spot on the Ocean. Belle Isle Strait is by far the most treacherous part of the North Atlantic route. The coast of Labrador projects into the ocean like a barrier against the flinging tides; and when the baffled current finds resistance suddenly removed, when the narrow straits open between Newfoundland and Labrador, the waters toss in with the sidling motion that creates the beam sea so hateful to all landsmen The strength of the inbursting cur rent simply cannot be calculated or counteracted by any mariner. In width the straits vary from nine to forty miles; and when the brownish fog never absent from the northern horizon spreads southward, obscuring every landmark, it is impossible for any captain to keep up speed and re tain his bearings. He may refer to his chart as often as he pleases and tell himself, "Thus and thus have we come, and here is the place we are. Tide and fog may have betraved him in spite of his calculations, and he may be at least a hundred miles on of his course.

A Sail in a Volcano.

In the Aegean Sea a vessel may said into the top of a crater, and though it is hard to find anchorage there, yet a mere sail through is appreciated great ly by the captains, because it cleanses the bottom of the ship from marine growth. The submarine crater has been more or less active for at least 2000 years, and has been constantly throwing out streams of sulphur. The

The gross postal receipts at fifty



THE EDICTS OF FASHION.

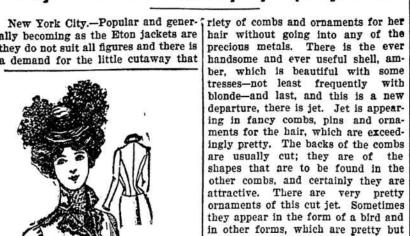
they do not suit all figures and there is demand for the little cutaway that



closes but does not lap, and that extends slightly below the waist line. The admirable May Manton model illustrated is adapted to covert cloth, black or tun broadcloth, as well as to the black cheviot of which the original is made. As shown the revers are faced with Louisine moire and the trimming is a simple black passemenor a band of stitched cloth or silk can be used as a finish.

The fronts are fitted with single meet the revers. The sleeves are in and wool materials. bishop style with straight band cuffs. The waist is made in baby style and

To cut this jacket for a woman of is full at the edge of the yoke and



Iridescent Gray.

nameless.

Iridescent gray is the name applied to the color which is principally of a light gray tone, but which shades away into clear light pink and pale green. The rose-colored and lettuce green tints give a shimmering play of color. It is seen in taffetas. This is a good choice for a gown for wear of summer afternoons.

Desirable Linen Collars.

Linen collars with the little turnover collar of embroidered lawn are very desirable when broad ribbons are worn around the neck. The small collar prevents the ribbon from slipping up against the neck and becoming soiled, as it will with once wearing without it.

Popular Costume For Girls.

No summer fabric known is daintier or launders more successfully than Persian lawn. The charming little terie, but simple stitching is sufficient | May Manton costume shown illustrates the material trimmed with cream Valenciennes insertion and with yoke of all-over inserted tucking and flarts and are turned back to form the is essentially smart as well as childrevers. The back is seamed at the like and simple. All white is held in centre, to ensure a curve at the waist | high favor and is always lovely in orline, and includes side-backs and un- gandy, batiste, Swiss muslin and the der-arm gores. The neck is finished like, as well as the lawn, but figured with a pointed Aiglon collar that ex- and colored materials are equally well tends across the back and fronts to suited to the design as are simple silk



PEASANT WAIST AND PRINCESS SKIRT.

medium size two and one eighth yards again at the waist line, while the of material forty-four inches wide or graceful frill, forming a bertha, outone and three-quarter yards fifty lines the low round neck. Ao shown inches wide will be required.

A Fetching Gown. The princess skirt has taken a recognized place among the styles for young The sleeves are in elbow length and girls as well as those designed for their elders. It is excellent for gowns of all sorts but lends itself to the odd skirt for wear with peasant and shirt waists, and to the bolero or Eton suit with singular success. All the season's materials, silk, wool and linen, are appropriate, and are used, but the May Manton original shown in the large drawing is made from Princess crepe in soft pastel tan, and is trimmed with applique bands of Persian embroidery in the duller "old" tones, and is worn with a peasant bodice of cream silk mull.

The skirt is cut in five gores and is fitted over the hips by means of darts that run to the upper edge of the bodice portion. The fulness at the back is laid in an inverted pleat that ensures the snug fit essential to correct style and provides ample folds and flare at the lower portion. At the lower edg: is a shaped circular flounce that adds greatly to the effect, but which can be omitted when the skirt is desired plain. The bodice portion is pointed back and front and includes straps that are worn over the shoul-

ders and serve to hold it in place. To cut this skirt for a miss of fourteen years of age eight and one-eight yards of material twenty-one inches wide, seven and one-eight yards twerty-seven inches wide, six and one-eight yards thirty-two inches wide or four and a half yards forty-four inches

wide will be required. To cut this waist for a miss of fourteen years of age three and five-eight able yoke effect. yards of material twenty-one inches wide, two and a half yards thirty-two inches wide, or two yards forty-four inches wide, with one yard of silk or velvet twenty-one inches wide for girdle and collar, will be required.

Ornaments For the Hair. A woman can have an infinite va- trim as illustrated.

the full portion is made over a body lining which is cut away under the yoke, but such details must be varied to suit the material and the occasion. terminate in graceful frills. The collar is of moderate depth and, like the yoke, is unlined. The skirt is finished with a deep



frill at the lower edge and is laid in tucks at the belt to give the fashion-

To cut this costume for a girl of eight years of age seven yards of material twenty-one inches wide, five and a quarter yards thirty-two inches wide or four yards forty-four inches wide will be required, with three-eight yards of inserted tucking for yoke and seventeen yards of lace insertion to

THE SABBATH SCHOOL GOD'S MESSAGE TO MAN

INTERNATIONAL LESSON COMMENTS FOR MAY 26,

Subject: The Holy Spirit Given, Acts ii., 1-11 - Golden Text, John xvi., 13 -Memory Verses, 1-4 - Commentary on the Day's Lesson.

Memory Verses, 1-4—Commentary on the Day's Lesson.

1. "Day of Pentecost." The meaning of Pentecost is "fiftieth." It occurred fifty days after the Passover, and was the second of the three yearly feasts held by the Jews. The resurrection was upon a Sunday and Pentecost was the fiftieth day from the resurrection; therefore it was also on Sunday. "Fully come." The day began at the previous sunset, and this would suggest an hour on the fiftieth day. They knew a great blessing was to come upon them, but how or when they did not know. Thus they were best led to watch and pray, to open their minds to the truth, to be bound together in love, and to seek the Lord with all their hearts, trusting Him for the fulfilment of the promise. "All." Probably the 120 spoken of in Chap. 1: 15, who were altogether at the election of Matthias. "With one accord." There was no person uninterested, none unconcerned, none lukewarm; all were in earnest, and the Spirit of God came down to meet their united faith and prayer. "In one place." The upper room. Acts 1: 13. At the time of Hadrian's visit to Jerusalem, then for the most part in ruins, there was still entire the upper church of the apostles in which Cyril of Jerusalem ministered, A. D. 348. It is God's plan to have His people meet together in His name (Heb. 10: 25; Matt. 18: 19, 20), and those who through negligence, or otherwise, absent themselves from the company of the saints will suffer great spiritual loss.

2. "Suddenly." Unexpectedly, in a mothose who through negligence, or otherwise, absent themselves from the company of the saints will suffer great spiritual loss.

2. "Suddenly." Unexpectedly, in a moment, not gradually, as winds generally rise. "A sound." The suddenness, strength and diffusiveness of the sound strike with deepest awe the whole company, and thus complete their preparation for the heavenly gift. Wind was a familiar emblem of the Spirit. Ezek. 37: 9; John 3: 8; 20: 22. But this was not a rush of actual wind. It was only a sound, "as of" it. "It filled all the house." The sound was heard by all. To an upper room the Spirit came, a plain unfurnished room, where there was no ritual, no priest, so burnt offerings, no smell of incense.

3. "There appeared." After the audible sign immediately follows the visible. "Cloven tongues." The tongues of fire parted themselves off like streams from one source or like branches from one root, and distributed themselves among them. This was the baptism of fire which John had promised (Matt. 3: 11); the fire on earth which the Lord Himself longed to see kindled. Luke 12: 49. The tongues were the emblem of the languages they were to speak. The cloven tongues pointed out the diversity of those languages, and the fire seemed to intimate that the whole would be a spiritual gift and be the means of bringing light and life to the souls who should hear them preach the everlasting gospel in those languages." Like as of fire." The fire indicated. 1.

means of bringing light and life to the souls who should hear them preach the everlasting gospel in those languages. "Like as of fire." The fire indicated: 1. The penetrating power of the word of God. 2. The old symbol of zeal and enthusiasm. 3. Leaping, triumphant, transforming energy. 4. The resistless purifying which consumes the errors and burns up evil. 5. All the comfort, warmth, cheer, life, joy, blessing, which the Holy Spirit could impart. "It sat." There were as many flames as there were persons and they sat upon them for some time to show the constant residence of the Holy Spirit with them. The Spirit henceforth was to abide in the church, and hold His throne and seat there, as the Shekinah in the Holy of Holies of old, and as the spirit of life abides in our boaies, the organizing, controlling, life-giving power.

4. "Were all filled." Not only touched or made aware of the presence of the Holy Ghost, but filled, made full. The whole nature was filled with the love and power of God. The same measure and the same gifts of the Spirit were not bestowed on all alike; nevertheless, each one was filled, receiving the same measure of the Spirit which corresponded to his capacity. "With

all alike; nevertheless, each one was filled, receiving the same measure of the Spirit which corresponded to his capacity. "With the Holy Spirit." (R. V.) The Holy Spirit was not now for the first time given to men, for the Old Testament repeatedly makes mention of His influence on the minds of the prophets and others (compare, also, Luke 1: 15, 41, 67); but He is now given in abundance and power, thus ushering in a new dispensation. At this time the hearts of the disciples were puriushering in a new dispensation. At this time the hearts of the disciples were purified by faith. "Began to speak." The speech that publishes the glad tidings should be a tongue of fire. He who speaks the gospel coldly has not himself felt its power. When the preacher's heart is kindled his words will burn. Enthusiasm instead of being a blemish in a Christian is his normal condition. "Fervent in spirit, serving the Lord;" these two have been joined together by the word of God, and they should never be put asunder in the practice of men. The difference between one man and another is the difference of fire. "With other tongues." Their tongues were new with respect to language tongues were new with respect to language as well as to thoughts. "Gave utterance." Furnished them with the matters as well s the language.
5. "Dwelling at Jerusalem." Both per-

5. "Dwelling at Jerusalem." Both permanent residents and pilgrims, who had come up to the feast, are probably included, verse 10. At this time there was scarcely a commercial nation under heaven where the Jews had not been scattered for the purpose of trade, merchandise, etc., and from all these nations, it is said, there were pressons now present at Jerusalem. and from all these nations, it is said, there were persons now present at Jerusalem. The wide list of countries mentioned includes all the lands to which the Israelites had been banished. Representatives from all the twelve tribes listened to Peter's sermon (Acts 2: 14-36), carried back the gospel to their different homes, and were afterward confirmed in the faith by the epistle of James, addressed to the twelve tribes which are scattered abroad, or are in the dispersion.

twelve tribes which are several or are in the dispersion.

6. "When this sound was heard." (R. V.) The sound that came from the upper room. "Confounded." Perplexed, failing to understand what it all meant. See v. or dispersions of the confounded." Or dispersions the confounded in t 12. "Own language." Or dialect; they heard even the different dialects. See

7. "Galileans." Persons wholly unedu cated and, consequently, ignorant of those languages which they now speak so fluently.

9. "Parthians." For an explanation of the names in this and the following verses

see dictionary.

10. "Proslytes." Heathen who had accepted the Jewish religion.

11. "Wonderful works." Corcerning 11. "Wonderful works." Concerning Jesus: His death, resurrection and ascen-

sion and His power to save men from sin. Hunt For a Missing Vegetable Link. Botanical experts from Harvard University and the University of Chicago will go to Margarita Island, off the coast of Venezuela, in search of the missing link of the vegetable world, according to a statement made by Professor John M. Coulter, of the University of Chicago. In tracing the evolution of plant life, scientists both at Chicago and Harvard found a gap which could be explained only by the existence of a plant as yet unuscovered. Circun-stances pointed to the probability of find-ing such a plant on Margarita Island, which never has been explored by scien-

Kalser Losing Self-Control.

Emperor William, besides perusing upward of two score of German papers glances every day at two French two English, one American and three Austrian. Dietrich Weiland's attack upon Emperor William in Bremen still weighs heavily upon the Kaiser, who, whenever he comes to talk upon the subject, is said to lose his seli-control. Count von Ballestens is reported to have tald friends for trem is reported to have told friends re-cently that he had been highly shocked the Emperor's extreme excitement when discussing the question.

The Importation of Bananas.

Upward of \$8,000,000 worth of bananas from the West Indian and Central Ameri-can plantations are caten in the United States every year. The Island of Jamaica to this country 4,000,000 bunches annually.

Fires 116 Shots a Minute. New automatic revolvers for the United States Army are capable of firing 116 shots

PRECNANT THOUGHTS FROM TH WORLD'S CREATEST PROPHETS.

The New England Daughter-Painful Ac curacy - The facredness of Comme Things-Regard for One's Neighborn

Paul's Life-Companion - A Gleam. Silent at the post of service, Till from out her guarding hands Goes the last intrusted dear one, The New England daughter stands Ask not who will teach her courage Or the gathering shades dispel Ask not who her age will lighten;

Sons there are, whose rising fortunes
In the newer West shine fair: They have left the father, mother, To the daughter's tender care. Love has passed her by unburdened. Prizes she has put aside; But the old home voices call her With a summons ne'er denied.

She has done her duty well.

When the filial tasks are ended, There may be a place for her. Ah, the still New England homesteads That one lonely life inter! She will tend her flowers in summer; And, when winter days are drear, In the north's wind's noisy tumult Ghostly voices she will hear.

Up and down the quiet valleys, On the hillsides, by the sea, Nestling 'neath the village shade-trees, Wait these homes for you and me. We can see them as we journey. we can see them as we journey,
In the darkness gleams their light;
And we know of life's lone triumph.
As we fare on through the night.

—Rev. Edward F. Hayward, in Christian Register.

Painful Accuracy.

A habit of accuracy is of the utmost importance, and mothers ought to insist upon truthfulness in their children. But upon truthfulness in their children. But occasionally one comes across a person who lays undue stress upon trifles. If you start to tell a story, she interrupts you to say that it was Wednesday, not Monday, as you had stated; that the amount was thirty-one dollars, not thirty; and that the gentleman could hardly be called middle-aged, as she thay his age to be sixty-two. Thus she knew his age to be sixty-two. Thus she corrects every speaker, until it is only an adventurous soul who will attempt to talk much in her presence. If you say to her that it hardly seems worth while to make so much fuss over trifles, she will ask how you dare call anything a trifle, and then relate cases in which apparent trifles have proved of untold importance, till you retire in silence, overcome by a sense of your own ignorance and unworthiness. Such self-ap-pointed reformers need to be reminded that they will not have to answer for other people's sins, and that it were bet-ter to let trifling inaccuracies pass unnoticed than to be the means of preventing the free interchange of thought and opinion. Certainly there are no such conversation-killers as these over-accurate persons, and as such they deserve to be suppressed.

The Sacredness of Common Things.

Bonaventura, "the Seraphic Doctor," wrote in an inspired moment what has been called his "golden sentence" golden not in a rhetorical sense, because of any charm of language or beauty of figure, but golden in its depth of insight, its simple truth, its ability to stand the test of what Carlyle calls "the everlasting yea." The enduring truth uttered by the great Italian theologian was this: "The best preparation of a religious man is to do common things in a perfect manner." Here is a philosophy of personal religion, as we say, "in a nutshell"—the final quintessence of all that is essential and practical. It is worthy to stand next to Christ's summary of Christian duty: "Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart and with all the conditions of the condi and with all thy soul and with all thy mind. This is the first and great commandment. And the second is like unto it: Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself. On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets.'

Regard for One's Neighbor.

There are persons who will "rise to great occasions," to whom the lesser occasions are invisible as opportunities. We grow, not so much by waiting for the great occasions, as by taking the opportunities daily afforded by the little ones. A young lady who took her seat on the sunny side of a railroad car, was observed to turn and look at the person back of her once or twice, and then she said, "Does this sun annoy you?" The sun shone obliquely through her window back into her neighbor's face. But how many persons look to see whether the sun that comes through their window annoys any one but themselves? The average rider acts as if he thought the sun and the wind extended no further than to himself. A car window is a good place to practice that thoughtful regard for one's neighbor which will strengthen the spirit and enlarge the capacity for doing deeds that seem larger and more heroic.-Patterson P-

Bois, in "Chat-Wood." Paul's Life-Companion.

Of all Paul's pains and perils, the thorn in his flesh, his life-companion, was the worst and yet was the best. Certainly the chemistry whose working in us is thus hinted owes its laws to Life larger than our own, even to that One Great Life which lives as strength and grace through all our trying and bearing and doing. So he called it well, "God's grace sufficient for me," "His strength perfect in my weakness." the Order of the Thorn only those whose pain is in themselves are privileged to enter. There is one order of nobility yet higher, and only one: but into this other all who will can enter. The brotherhood whose symbol is the Cross, and whose pain begins not in themselves, but in others, outranks the brotherhood whose symbol is the Thorn.-Rev. W. C. Gannett.

A Gleam Through the Gloom.

An artist, when on his deathbed, called for his masterpiece. It was the painting of a shipwreck, with dark clouds and "aging seas, the only light a lurid one. "That cloud is too dark," he said. "I always thought it the right shade before, but now I see it is too dark; I must make it brighter," and, with a last touch of his brush, he let a gleam of light illumine the darkness. So Christ has taken away the sting of death, and by the light of His glorious resurrection has dispersed the clouds of darkness .- Anon.

A solid blow has in itself the elements of its rebound; but a hundred little needles pricking at us-what is to be with them?-Elizabeth Stuart

Whispering Gallery Menaced.

The Capitol guides are greatly distressed because of the proposed reroofing of Statuary Hall, in Washington. They say it will destroy the famous echoes, their stock in trade, and they have submitted a formal protest to the Capitol architect. If the present plans are not changed the famous whispering gallery will soon be a thing of the past.

Crop Acreage in United Kingdom. The average acreage under crops in the United Kingdom is 47,795,270. This is something over one-half of the total area